

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

ORDER NO. 2558

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served May 23, 1984

Application of PATRICK D. MURPHY )  
t/a BLARNEY TOURS for Temporary )  
Authority to Conduct Special )  
Operations--Sightseeing )

Case No. AP-84-23

By application filed May 3, 1984, Patrick D. Murphy, trading as Blarney Tours, seeks temporary authority to transport passengers in special operations on sightseeing tours from Pohick Bay Regional Park, Fairfax County, Va., to points within the District of Columbia 1/ and return, restricted to vehicles with a maximum manufacturer's designed seating capacity of 12 persons or less including the driver.

Mr. Murphy proposes to offer three tours, each of which will leave the park at 9 a.m. and return at 3 p.m., making four stops of approximately one hour duration on each tour. Tour I, to be offered on Mondays and Thursdays, would stop at the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, the United States Capitol, the Air and Space Museum and the Museum of American History. Tour II, to be offered on Tuesdays and Fridays, would stop at Arlington National Cemetery, 2/ the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial and the National Gallery of Art. Tour III, to be offered on Wednesdays, would include the National Zoo, Embassy Row, the National Cathedral and Dumbarton Oaks. Applicant also purposes to offer three-hour evening tours to unspecified points. The price for the day tour is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Evening tours are priced at \$10 per passenger regardless of age. Persons desiring to use applicant's service can book tours through the park registration desk or directly through applicant.

Mr. Murphy is the sole proprietor of Blarney Tours. He holds no authority from this Commission. He owns a single van in which all tours will be conducted. For the immediate future he will serve as

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1/ To the extent this application could be construed to seek authority to transport passengers solely within the Commonwealth of Virginia, the same is hereby dismissed pursuant to the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 1(b).

2/ Id. We advise applicant that authority is required from the Virginia Corporation Commission to conduct such operations.

both driver and tour guide on the proposed service but will draw no salary. His statement of projected income anticipates gross revenues of \$1,000 per month with net operating income of \$269 per month absent depreciation expenses and before taxes.

In support of his application for temporary authority Mr. Murphy offers a letter from Randy G. Bowers, Park Operations Superintendent, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. According to Mr. Bowers, the service proposed by applicant "is needed and would be heavily utilized" by campground patrons. Mr. Murphy further notes that no other carrier operates from Pohick Bay at this time.

Upon consideration of the application in this case, we find that the prerequisites to a grant of temporary authority as set out in Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3) have been met. No other carrier is conducting the proposed service. Mr. Bowers indicates a strong need for the service and supports Mr. Murphy's proposal for providing it. Since applicant's proposed service will originate from a campground, the greatest need for such a service exists in the Spring and Summer months. For this reason, it is consistent with the public interest to institute the service as soon as possible.

**THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That Patrick D. Murphy, trading as Blarney Tours, is hereby granted temporary authority to transport passengers in special operations on sightseeing tours from Pohick Bay Regional Park, Lorton, Va., to points in the District of Columbia and return, restricted to vehicles with a maximum manufacturer's designed seating capacity of twelve persons including the driver.

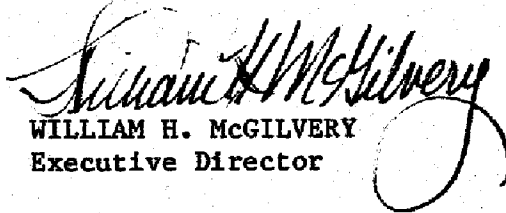
2. That the temporary authority granted herein does not authorize transportation between any points located solely within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

3. That Patrick D. Murphy, trading as Blarney Tours, is hereby directed to file (a) a certificate of insurance as required by Commission Regulation No. 62; (b) two copies of WMATC Tariff No. 1 as required by Commission Regulation No. 55 including a specific description of an evening tour to be offered; and (c) an affidavit of compliance with Commission Regulation No. 68 governing identification of motor vehicles.

4. That upon timely compliance by Patrick D. Murphy, trading as Blarney Tours, with the directives set forth in paragraph 3 above, temporary authority as specified in paragraph 1 shall become effective upon the written advice of the Executive Director and shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed 180 days.

5. That unless compliance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph is effected within 30 days from the date of service hereof, or such additional time as the Commission may authorize, the grant of temporary authority made herein is void and this application shall stand denied in its entirety effective upon expiration of the said compliance time.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION, COMMISSIONERS WORTHY, SCHIFTER AND SHANNON:

  
WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY  
Executive Director

